

Message Text

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72-61

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 EUR-12 SP-02 PM-03

L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00

PRS-01 INRE-00 /057 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:HHS SAUNDERS:CFE

APPROVED BY NEA:HHS SAUNDERS

S/S: -O:PJOHNSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050023

TOSEC 37

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: TELEVISIONING OF ISRAELI TRAINING CREWS

FOR ATHERTON FROM SAUNDERS

1. AS YOU KNOW, CBS AND NBC TODAY ASKED DEFENSE FOR PERMISSION TO FILM ISRAELIS TRAINING ON LANCE MISSILE. DEFENSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE TOLD NETWORKS THAT NO SUCH PERMISSION CAN BE GIVEN WITHOUT APPROVAL OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT INVOLVED. HOWEVER, DEFENSE APPARENTLY DID LEAVE IMPRESSION WITH NETWORK REPRESENTATIVES THAT IF GOI AGREES, DOD ALSO WOULD APPROVE. NETWORKS THEN CONTACTED ISRAELIS HERE WHO WERE NON-COMMITTAL AND WHO THEN ASKED DOD/ISA FOR ITS VIEWS. GENERAL SUMNER HAD WORD PASSED TO ISRAELI GENERAL BARAKET THAT WE WOULD VERY MUCH PREFER THAT ISRAELIS HELP US KEEP THIS PROGRAM OUT OF LIMELIGHT BY NOT AGREEING TO NETWORK REQUEST. SUBSEQUENTLY, I DISCUSSED THIS IN LOW KEY WITH SHALEV WHO AGREED THAT PUBLICITY

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OF THIS KIND AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT BE IN INTERESTS

OF EITHER ISRAEL OR U.S.

2. NETWORKS THEN CLAIMED TO DEFENSE THAT ISRAEL
WOULD AGREE IF DEFENSE WOULD DO SO. SUSPECTING
NETWORK SQUEEZE PLAY, ISA OFFICER CHECKED WITH

ISRAELI MILITARY ATTACHE'S OFFICE AND WAS TOLD THAT
ISRAELI REPLY TO NETWORKS WAS THAT QUESTION MUST BE
PUT TO JERUSALEM. WHEN I TALKED WITH SHALEV AT THE
END OF THE DAY, HE CONFIRMED IT IS THE ISRAELI
DESIRE TO KEEP THIS LOW-KEY BUT HE INDICATED THAT
THEIR POSITION WITH THE NETWORKS WILL PROBABLY BE
THAT IT IS NOT WITHIN THEIR AUTHORITY TO SAY WHO
HAS ACCESS TO A U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATION.

3. FROM EAGLEBURGER: THIS WAS HANDED TO ME FOR CLEARANCE
AT THE SAME TIME I RECEIVED SISCO'S TELEGRAM TO ME ON THIS
SUBJECT. I WILL REPORT ON MY CONVERSATION WITH SHALEV AND
SCOWCROFT ON THIS SUBJECT BY SEPTTEL BUT YOU SHOULD NOT
TAKE THE ABOVE FROM SAUNDERS AS FINAL. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, MILITARY POLICIES, TOSEC 037, TELEVISION BROADCASTING, INFORMATION CONTROL
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: HHTAUNDERS:CFE
Enclosure: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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Subject: TELEVISION OF ISRAELI TRAINING CREWS FOR ATHERTON FROM SAUNDERS
TAGS: MASS, US, IS, CBS, NBC
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006